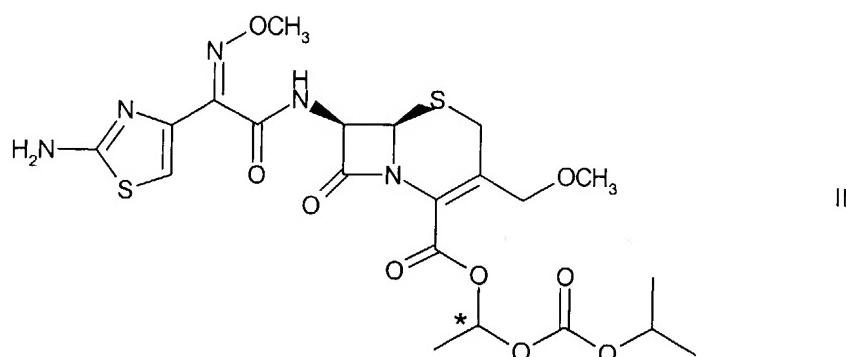


**IN THE CLAIMS**

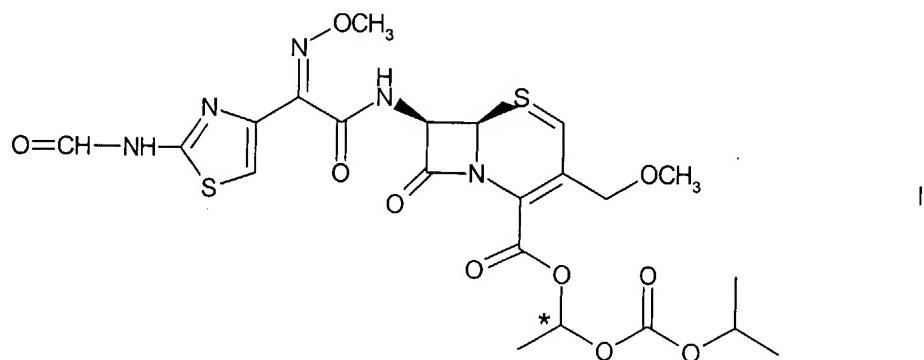
Delete Claims 3-11.

Add the following claims 14-19.

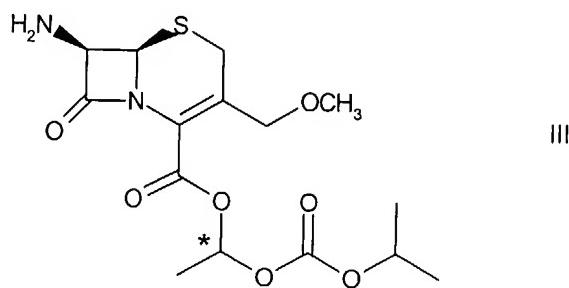
14. A process for the production of a mixture of diastereoisomers of cefpodoxime proxetil of formula



in a diastereoisomeric ratio B/(A+B), wherein B is the more apolar of the two diastereoisomers, of 0.5 to 0.6, the diastereoisomers being with respect with the carbon atom marked with a star in formula II, comprising producing a mixture of diastereoisomers of a compound of formula



by acylating a compound of formula

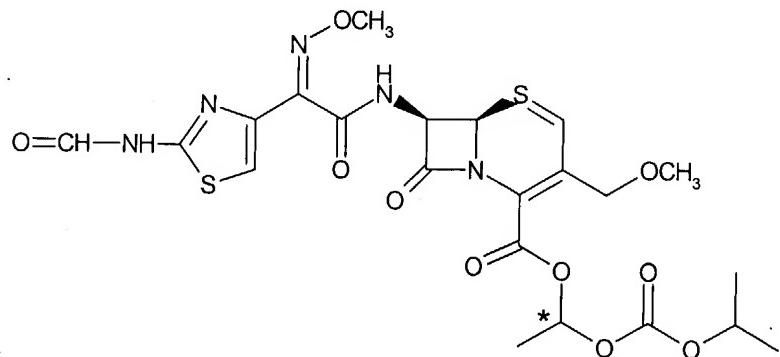


with activated Z-(2-formamidothiazol-4-yl)-methoxyimino acetic acid, removing solvent from the reaction mixture obtained:

and crystallizing a compound of formula I in the residue obtained:

by dissolving or suspending the compound of Formula I in the presence of a nitrile or a ketone or mixtures thereof;  
at a ratio of 1 gm of the compound of Formula I to 2-15 ml nitrile; or at a ratio of 1 gm of the compound of Formula I to 3-15 ml ketone; in the presence of 5-80 ml water;  
and thereafter isolating the compound of formula I in crystalline form and converting the compound of formula I by splitting off the formyl group from the amino group attached to the thiazolyl group, to obtain a compound of formula II, in the form of a diastereoisomeric mixture in a ratio of B/(A+B) of 0.5 to 0.6.

15. A process according to Claim 14 wherein the nitrile is acetonitrile.
16. A process according to Claim 14 wherein the ketone is acetone.
17. A process for the production of a compound of formula I in crystalline form



comprising dissolving or suspending the compound of Formula I in the presence of a nitrile or a ketone or mixtures thereof;  
at a ratio of 1 gm of the compound of Formula I to 2-15 ml nitrile; or at a ratio of 1 gm of the compound of Formula I to 3-15 ml ketone; in the presence of 5-80 ml water;  
and thereafter isolating the compound of formula I in crystalline form.

18. A process according to Claim 17 wherein the nitrile is acetonitrile.
19. A process according to Claim 17 wherein the ketone is acetone.